

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, JANUARY 13, 1965

The Board of Public Works met in the office of the Governor, State Office Building, Baltimore, Maryland.

There were present:

J. Millard Tawes, Governor
Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller
John A. Luetkemeyer, Treasurer.

Also attending the meeting were:

Henry T. Douglas, Chief of Planning, Maryland Port Authority
William H. Bayliff, Executive Secretary, Board of Natural Resources
Richard H. Collins, Member, Board of Natural Resources
Dr. Van Flyger, Natural Resources Institute, University of Maryland
Albert P. Backhaus, Director, Department of Public Improvements
Russell H. McCain, Executive Assistant to the Governor
Percy M. Hepbron, Senator, Kent County
Irving L. Crouch, Fisherman, Kent County
Herbert Sachs, Maryland State Planning Commission
Kenneth N. Weaver, Maryland Geological Survey
Turbit H. Slaughter, Maryland Geological Survey
Paul W. McKee, Department of Water Resources
John L. Reynolds, Chief, Operations Division, Corps of Engineers,
Baltimore District
Richard Cullen, Attorney, Wicomico County Council
Wade Insley, Jr., President, Wicomico County Council
Thomas A. Craig, Salisbury Chamber of Commerce
Richard S. Wootten, Wicomico County Council
Delbert Davis, Jr., Director, Wicomico County Public Works
Ralph L. Dodge, Upper Chesapeake Watershed Association
Avery W. Hall, Maryland Port Authority, Salisbury, Maryland
John W. Kronau, Maryland Port Authority, Baltimore, Maryland
J. L. Stanton, Maryland Port Authority, Baltimore, Maryland
George T. Harrison, Tilghman, Maryland
George Heller Harrison, St. Michaels, Maryland
William O. Mills, Congressman Rogers Morton, Washington, D. C.
O. Loren Sterling, Board of Natural Resources, Crisfield, Maryland
Ralph A. Schmidt, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Boston
Frederick Sieling, Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs
Joseph H. Manning, Director, Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs
Roy L. Walsh, Board of Natural Resources, Easton, Maryland
Donald W. Pritchard, Board of Natural Resources
Walter C. Boyer, Maryland Port Authority
Col. E. P. Yates, District Engineer, U. S. Army Engineers, District
of Philadelphia
H. P. Mickel, U. S. Engineer District, District of Philadelphia
Ellery B. Woodworth, Assistant to Senator Brewster

DREDGING:

The Governor stated that this special meeting of the Board of Public Works had been called at the request of the Maryland Port Authority, to discuss two (2) matters on Dredged Spoil Disposal:

- 1 - Wicomico River Project - Sharkfin Shoal Area
- 2 - Channel to the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal

1- Wicomico River Project-Sharkfin Shoal Area:

The Governor introduced Mr. Henry T. Douglas, Chief of Planning, Maryland Port Authority, to review the problem in Sharkfin Shoal. The Maryland Port Authority is the State co-ordinating agency for channel problems.

Mr. Douglas reviewed the Wicomico River Dredging Project and pointed out that Wicomico County has secured spoil deposit areas on-shore with one (1) exception, that is, the channel through Sharkfin Shoal. It is estimated that about 40,000 cubic yards would be dredged from this area. The most economical method of this part of the Project raises three (3) problems:

- a. Sharkfin Shoal passes through a natural oyster bed.
- b. Sharkfin Shoal passes close to two (2) oyster shell plantings.
- c. It is located quite far from land - three (3) miles to nearest land.

(cont.)

(Dredging)

The Corps of Engineers, as a matter of policy, always uses the method of the least cost to the Federal Government. In this case the Board of Natural Resources is opposed to overboard disposal and although Bloodsworth Island was recommended for onland disposal, it proved too costly and was objected to by the Federal Government. It was pointed out that the cost of any modification of the plan developed by the Corps of Engineers would have to be borne by the State.

During the discussion of this problem Mr. Goldstein asked several questions and suggested several proposals as to a solution. He also asked if there would be more problems of this nature. He was advised that there would be.

After full discussion of the matter, by the representatives from the Corps of Engineers, Wicomico County, and the Board of Natural Resources, it was generally agreed that of all of the possibilities only the Western Site should be used. This is some forty (40) acres, of which the spoil may cover only twenty (20) acres. The Western area is in an area of shifting sand and there are no oysters to be damaged.

This concluded the discussion on Sharkfin Shoal.

2- Channel to the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal:

The Board then took up the proposal of the spoil disposal arising from the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Dredging Project.

Mr. Douglas presented the problems faced by the Maryland Port Authority, whose primary function is to foster and develop the waterborne commerce of the State and by the Board of Natural Resources and related Agencies, whose primary concern is to protect and develop the natural resources of the State. Mr. Douglas summed up his presentation by urging the Board to withdraw its objection to overboard disposal in this instance.

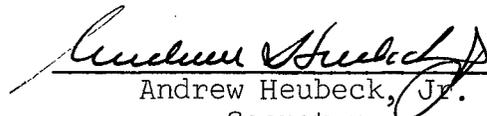
Following Mr. Douglas were various representatives of the Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, the Board of Natural Resources, headed by Mr. Roy L. Walsh, Chairman, and various representatives of the related agencies. Mr. Goldstein asked pertinent questions and offered possible solutions, after which he recommended that a meeting be arranged with Senator Daniel B. Brewster, the Board of Public Works, and the Aberdeen authorities to discuss the problem, with Senator Brewster to initiate such a meeting with President Johnson and Secretary of Defense McNamara.

At the conclusion of the discussions, during which various papers and documents were presented to the Board for its consideration, the Board concluded the hearing with the understanding that it would study all of the information submitted and render its decision as soon as possible.

Note: A transcript of the summary of this meeting has been made a part of the files of the Board of Public Works, covering these two (2) Projects.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Andrew Heubeck, Jr.
Secretary



